

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An isolated polypeptide comprised of a sequence that is at least 90% identical with an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:2, 3, 4, 5, 15 and 16.

2. An isolated polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9 10, 11 and 12.

3. An isolated polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide that is at least 90% identical with an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:2, 3, 4, 5, 15 and 16.

4. An isolated polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

5. An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide comprised of a sequence that is at least 90% identical with an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15 and 16.

6. An isolated anti-idiotypic antibody which binds to an epitope of an antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide comprised of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 15.

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7. A method for promoting proliferation of leukocytes comprising bringing said leukocytes into contact with a polypeptide comprised of an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical with an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of 2, 3, 4, 5, 15 and 16.

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